

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 27 are currently pending. Claims 21-26 have been cancelled and new claim 27 has been added. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended. Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 4 and 8-10 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant has rewritten claim 8 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim (claim 1). As such, claim 8 is allowable. In addition, claims 9 and 10 depend from claim 8 and are also allowable.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Brown (U.S. Patent No. 6,273,207).

Amended claim 1 defines a motorcycle that includes, among other things, a seat assembly that has a seat pan, a front mount coupled to the frame adjacent the fuel tank, a rear mount, and a frame mount located between the front mount and the rear mount and fixed with respect to the seat pan. The frame mount engages the seat mount and has a latched configuration corresponding to a first position of the seat assembly with respect to the frame, and an unlatched configuration corresponding to a second position of the seat assembly with respect to the frame. The frame mount and the seat mount cooperate with the front and rear mounts to couple the seat assembly to the frame in the latched configuration.

Brown does not teach or suggest a frame mount that is fixed with respect to the seat pan and that engages the seat mount and is movable with the seat assembly between a latched configuration and an unlatched configuration. Rather, Brown discloses a seat 18 for a motorcycle 10. The seat attaches to the motorcycle at the front and at the rear and includes a seat strap that extends across the top of the seat 18 and attaches at both sides. The free end of the strap attaches to a buckle 86 that includes a buckle opening that has an enlarged clearance

portion 100 and a reduced retaining portion 104. The buckle opening engages a bolt 112 to attach the strap to the motorcycle. The buckle 86 moves with respect to the remainder of the seat 18 to engage the bolt or disengage from the bolt. Brown makes no mention of a seat pan, nor is there a teaching or suggestion that the buckle 86 is fixed with respect to the seat or the seat pan.

In light of the foregoing, Brown does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of claim 1. As such, claim 1 is allowable. In addition, claims 2-3 and 5-7 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for these and other reasons.

New claim 27 contains all of the limitations of amended claim 1. The limitations of claim 1 have been reorganized and included in claim 27 such that claim 27 reads on a seat assembly for a motorcycle. However, all of the limitations of claim 1 are present in either the body of claim 27 or the preamble of claim 27. As such, claim 27 is allowable.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-10 and 27 are allowable.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TL J Otterlee', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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